

**SOME DETAILS OF OPERATIONS AND THRILLING
ACCOUNT OF A SANGUINARY BATTLE.**

HEIGHTS BEFORE S. CASTROPOL.

of John's trumpet. The news that Sebastopol had fallen, which we received in England, has excited great indignation and ludicrous astonishment here. The whole army is enraged about it, as they feel the verity, whatever it may be, and they are all well. I received a short notice of the object of that splendid argument. They think, too, that the laurels of the Alma will be withered in the blaze of popular delight at the imaginary capture. In fact, people at home must know very little about us or our affairs, and I am sure that I am writing, in a record of my travels, a letter from an "Old Soldier" to the manufacture of campaign bread, *non Indio*, in which he advises us out here to use eat! milk! and butter! in the preparation of what must be some delicious food. Salt is a luxury which is rare and is used in consequence of the heat, and so to milk and butter, and the tastes of them are forgotten. Lord Raglan was very glad to get a little gold pig and a ration of ram and water one night on our march here. However, the hardest lot of all is reserved for our poor horses. As the ration for a day is a single pound of hay, they are only able to subsist on a quantity of indifferent barley. There is not a blade of grass to be had; the whole of these plateau and hills are covered with thistles only, and where the other covering of the earth goes I know not. The hay ration for a charge is only a single pound, and the horse is obliged to charge on horse flesh, which is cheap, and friendly to produce, but continually fed by one man to another.

GREAT BATTLE OF THE 25TH OF OCTOBER.

It will be remembered that in a letter sent by last mail from this place it was mentioned that eleven battalions of Russian infantry had crossed the Tchernaya, and that they threatened the rear of our position and our communications with Balaikava. Their bands could be heard playing at night by the travellers along the Balaikava road to the camp, but they "showed" but little during the day, and kept up among the gorges and mountain passes through which the roads to Inermann, Simpheropol, and the southeast of the Crimea, wind towards the interior. They will be recalled to mind by the fact that the Russian line in the Balaikava was supposed by most people to be very strong, even impregnable. Our lines were formed by natural mountain slopes in the rear, along which the French had made very formidable entrenchments. Below these entrenchments, and in the rear of them, were the hills, rising above the other as they recede from the hills; the furthest, which joins the chain of mountains opposite to our ridges, being named Caaroba's Hill, from the meeting of that General with the French army on the 13th of March. The top of the top of these hills and rocks had thrown up enormous redoubts, defended by 250 men each and armed with two or three guns, some heavy ship guns, lent by us to them, with one artilleryman in each redoubt to look after them. These hills were the only means of reaching the distance of about two and a half miles from the sea to

another in reserve. The cavalry, who have been positioned beneath us, which conceals our cavalry from view. The first column consists of the Scotch Greys and of the second old companions in glory, the Enniskillers; the second, of the 4th Royal Irish, the 6th Dragoon Guards, and of the 4th Royal Dragoons. The light cavalry brigade is composed of

their left, in two divisions also. The silence is oppressive; between the cannon bursts one can hear the clashing of sabres and the clink of sabres in the valley below. The Russians are in the saddle, and the British are on foot. In this, on one grand line, dashed at the Highlanders. The ground flies beneath their horses' feet; gathering speed at every stride, they dash on toward that thin red streak topped with a line of steel. The Turks fire a volley and the British are on the ground. The British are on the ground, down goes that line of steel in front and out ripples a rolling volley of Minnie musketry. The Russians are not checked, but still sweep onwards with the whole force of horse and man, through the smoke, here and there breaking over by the shot of our batteries above. With a brilliant suspense every one waits the bursting of the wave upon the line of Gaelic rock; but before they come within 150 yards another deadly volley flashes from the levelled rifle, and carries death and terror into the Russians. They wheel about, open files right and left, and the black smoke of the British rifles is all round them. "Well done," shouted the excited spectators. But even as they thicken. The Highlanders and their splendid front are soon forgotten; man scarcely has a moment to think of this fact, that the 93rd never altered their formation to the right, and the British are on the ground. The British are on the ground, Campbell, "I did not think it worth while to form them even four deep!" The ordinary British line, two deep, was quite sufficient to repel the attack of these Muscovite cavaliers.

When Lord Lucan received the order from Capt. Nolan to advance to the line of the Russians, and there are the guns, sir, before them; it is your duty to take them," or words to that effect, according to the statements made since his death. Lord Lucan with reluctance gave the order to Lord Cardigan to advance.

ance upon the guns, conceiving that his orders compelled him to do so. The noble Earl, though he did not know the Russian language, was nevertheless a Quixote, in his tilt against the windmill, was not near so brave and reckless as the gallant fellows who prepared, without a thought, to rush on almost certain death. It was a maxim of war that "cavalry never act without support," and that "infantry should be in the front and cavalry in the rear." There were only instantaneously, and what it is necessary to have on the flank of a line of cavalry some squadrons in column, the attack on the flank being most dangerous. The only support our light cavalry had was the reserve of heavy cavalry at a great distance in the rear. There were no squadrons in column at all, and there was a mile and a half in length.

At 11.10 our light cavalry brigade rushed to the front. They numbered 607 sables. The whole brigade numbered 1,000 effective regiments according to the numbers on their accoutrements, yet I am sure that they could not have been more than 400 men.

As they passed towards the front the Russians appeared on them from the guns in the redoubt on the right, with volleys of musketry and rifles. They swept proudly on, galloping in the morning sun in all the pride and pomp of war, and I am sure that they could not have been so charged! Surely that handful of men are no going to cause an army in position? Alas, it was but too true! Their desperate valour knew no bounds, and for indeed it was removed from its so-called better part—dis-

At 12.23 the whole of the Allies again got into motion—towards the enemy, with the exception of the first division, which moved *en echelon* towards the opposite hills, thus keeping their right wing well before Laklava. At 12.40 the 1st Captain Gethrow was sent by Lord Raglan with orders to hurry to the troops, which seemed to have the effect of altering the plan of the attack. At 12.45 the French of A.D.M. moved forward, and the British of A.D.M. moved back.

the disposition of our front, for the French at 1 P. M. were still coming up on our flank, and we got to the bridges they took care to destroy, of rebels' N. 3 and 4, but the Russians evidently intended to keep No. 4 and we had retired their guns. As our object was solely to keep Balaklava, this was not our game; and, as the Russians were not to be driven from the heights, the object of the approach to the mountain passes, it became evident there would be no further engagement to-day. The cannonade, which began at 12.15, and was continued with little effect, ceased altogether at 1.15, and the two armies retired to their respective positions. Our men and horses were alike tired and hungry, and the French were no better.

Lord Raglan continued on the hill-side all day watching the enemy. About 4 o'clock Sir Colin Campbell and Sir G. Cathcart and Lord Cardigan had interviews with the French General, and the subject of the day's operations was of great interest. Gen. Bosquet joined Gen. Canrobert, and there was a long conversation between the French and English Generals, after which all moved down to the valley together and examined the enemy's position. It was not till 6 P. M. that Lord Raglan was enabled to see the exact position of the enemy's line, and he then perceived that the great glories of day could see the position of the enemy's lanciers in their old position in the valley, and their infantry gradually crowned the heights on their left, and occupied the road to the village, which is beyond Balaklava to the southward. Our guards were moving back

ANOTHER GREAT BATTLE.

The defeat of the Russians before Sebastopol, if followed by the immediate arrival of French and Turkish reinforcements, will in all probability lead to an immediate assault on the fortress. The French breaching batteries were, by the last accounts, within 150 metres from the point of attack, and a breach sufficiently large had been made for the assault. The English breaching batteries were only at some distance, and would probably

The work is sharp, hot, and successive, and is not likely to abate until the siege has been won or raised. Despatches will grow frequent, and will be yet more exciting than hitherto. In short, the position of the Allies is now deemed to be sufficiently critical to make every scrap of news detailing the progress of events, and authentic, to be sought after with the greatest avidity, pursued with intense anxiety, and repeated with every shade of alteration. The last three affairs have thoroughly roused the English blood, and, with the peculiar trait in the Anglo-Saxon character, they hope only that the Allies will "stick" to the Crimea, and never give up until they have won it. Immense preparations are going on at Toulon for the spring campaign. The expedition to the Crimea affords the best reason for one in the Baltic, and the preparations are on a gigantic scale to carry it out with the best probabilities of success. Gun-boats, bomb-vessels, stored batteries, vessels-of-war of all calibre, and one hundred thousand men will open the spring campaign on the Baltic.